

# *Fall 2009 History 361*

## *U.S. Intellectual History, 1750-1940*

**Professor John Carson**



America, one historian has remarked, is a nation of words. In this lecture course we will examine some of the words and concepts that have been central within American culture from the Enlightenment to World War II and how they have been articulated, debated, and deployed at a variety of times and by a variety of people. Our reading will include such major figures as Thomas Jefferson, Harriet Beecher Stowe, W.E.B. DuBois, William James, and Langston Hughes, as well as a host of less well known writers, scientists, political thinkers, popular commentators and the like. We will focus throughout, however, as much on how the words are used in producing arguments, laws, social movements, consumer goods, and machines as on the language itself.

**Meets Tues/Thurs  
2:30-4:00 p.m.  
1427 Mason Hall**

**3 credits**

**Don't miss out  
on this great course!**